(b) if so, the decision taken by his Ministry;

(c) whether his Ministry is in favour of its bifurcation from CCI as demanded by the people of Assam as well as workers of that unit; and

(d) the details of profits and losses during the last five years and the amount of accummulated loss/profit?

THE MINISTER OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The CCI as a whole has been declared sick under the Sick Industrial Companies (Special Provisions) Act, 1985 (SICA) by the Board for Industrial & Financial Reconstruction (BIFR), which is a Quasi-Judicial body. The BIFR has already directed for sale of CCI as a whole or its plants individually or collectively.

(c) The matter was examined in consultation with CCI and it was felt that Bokajan Unit may not be able to survive as a stand alone unit.

(d) The details are given as under:—

Year	Net Profit/Loss of CCI	Net profit/loss of Bokajan unit	Accumulated loss of the company
1997-1998	1.50	4.66	-789.82
1998-1999	-184.94	1.61	-974.76
1999-2000	-216.91	0.35	-1191.67
2000-2001	-230.76	1.50	-1422.28
2001-2002	-215.33	1.00	-1637.61

Decline in the quality of DD/AIR Programmes

†1887. SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that quality of programmes of Doordarshan and Akashwani have registered a sharp decline in these days;

(b) whether it is also a fact that these agencies have to resort to reteleast/rebroadcast of the same serials/programmes broadcast/telecast earlier.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(c) if so, the steps Government are taking to improve the quality of programmes of DD-I and DD-II; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ):(a) to (d) In so far as AIR is concerned, Prasar Bharati has informed that there is no shortage of programmes.As regards, Doordarshan, it has recently invited proposals for telecast on DD-I, under sponsored category from outside producers keeping in view the requirements of the National channel on different time bands and of different genres. Few popular programmes are presently being repeated on DD-II after due consideration of the popularity of the programmes, their viewership and revenue generation potential.

Prasar Bharati has informed that the improvement in the quality of its programmes is a continuousprocess.

Review of 24-Hour DD News Channel

1888. SHRI C.P. THIRUNAVUKKARASU: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Doordarshan proposes to review its 24-hour News Channel-DD News again;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Prasar Bharati has examined the reasons for losses and closing of channel in the past; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ):(a) No Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d) As a part of its restructuring exercise, Prasar Bharati had closed down the DD News Channel due to its high cost and low visibility.